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New bills would create home heating fund

LANSING – Legislation before the Michigan Senate would help the state provide assistance to low-income residents to help offset the cost of heating their homes, announced Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, sponsor of the bills.

“As heating costs continue to rise, these bills will help the state provide home heating aid to families who need it,” said Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores.

Senate bills 75 and 76 would create the Michigan Home Heating Credit Fund and implement an income tax return check-off for donations. Money raised would be used to help close the gap between requests the state receives for home heating assistance and funding provided through the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

The bills are expected to be referred to the Senate Tax Policy Committee when the Senate reconvenes next week.

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